HR 9019 2005

House Resolution

A resolution designating March 10, 2005, as "Apprenticeship Day 2005" in Florida.

WHEREAS, the apprenticeship method of on-the-job training and related classroom instruction is found worldwide and has consistently been proven to be an effective, efficient, and economical way to pass on trade and craft skills and knowledge needed by the builders of a nation's economy, and

WHEREAS, since being incorporated into state law 57 years ago, Florida's apprenticeship program has taught tens of thousands of students critical, industry-identified skills and knowledge necessary for apprentices to take their place as sought-after, skilled craftpersons, creating a diversification that helps keep the state's economy growing by being built upon enduring strengths, and

WHEREAS, it has been repeatedly demonstrated that apprenticeship completers consistently earn higher salaries than students earning college degrees through the baccalaureate level, that apprentices are likely to remain in the high-skill, high-wage fields in which they received their training, and that they have extremely low rates of public assistance, and

WHEREAS, Florida's current registered apprenticeship program has 293 active apprenticeship programs throughout the state training 113,253 apprentices, with 163 programs in construction alone training 10,242 apprentices; Florida consistently ranks in the top 10 percent nationally in the number of apprentices served; and Florida's registered

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apprenticeship system welcomes all apprentices 16 years of age or older without regard to gender or ethnicity, and

WHEREAS, Florida's registered apprenticeship system guarantees the availability of a quality workforce trained to the exacting standards of the state's trades, while at the same time improving the training standards of business and industry, and it is on these strengths of a diversified workforce that Florida's economy will flourish and maintain its competitive edge nationally and internationally, and

WHEREAS, it is commonly known that the effectiveness and uniqueness of Florida's registered apprenticeship program is in part due to the unique cooperation and strong partnerships forged among the business and industry sectors, the educational community, apprenticeship program sponsors, and dedicated students who are highly motivated to learn, and

WHEREAS, registered apprenticeship programs are an essential part of our education system and such programs are a critical component in the development and delivery of high-caliber, skilled craftspeople needed to continue the growth that has been Florida's hallmark, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida:

That March 10, 2005, is designated as "Apprenticeship Day 2005" in Florida.